

**Charity Number - 1170539**

As we enter into this new financial year, the Britwell Youth & Community Project (BYCP) is pleased to share with you an overview of the successful outcomes since our Christmas newsletter.

### **High Sheriff Award**

On March 21<sup>st</sup> Britwell Youth and Community Project (BYCP) manager Paula Murphy was awarded the High Sheriff Award by Berkshire's High Sheriff Mrs. Victoria Fishburn in recognition of her dedicated service to the BYCP. Paula has been at the Britwell Youth and Community Project for over 40 years and has been instrumental in ensuring that the young people in the Britwell area have access to a thriving youth club, affectionately known as the Britwell Boys Club. She has been very much hands on, consistently ensuring that the club has been available during the evenings, every week without failure. During her tenure, the club has experienced challenging times and potential closure due to funding issues. There is no doubt that her personal commitment to the club has ensured its success and recognition. The award also recognizes the appreciation of the citizens of the Royal County of Berkshire for her part in enhancing the life of the community.



### **Supporters of Britwell Youth & Community Project**



We were chosen by our local Co-op Food Store as one of the local charities to support in October 2016. With the purchase of Co-op branded products or services by customers who have a membership and have signed up to support us, 1% of their purchase was donated to us. This funding finished at the end of March and raised £1711 for the BYCP. We have been lucky enough to be selected again by our local Co-op Food store so if you haven't already done so, please vote for us in this round of funding which lasts from April-September. The Berkshire Community Foundation (Slough Social Fund) awarded us with a grant of £10,000 in December and the Shanly Foundation awarded us a £3,000 grant in March; all of which have been put towards our yearly shortfall. Thanks so kindly to these organizations and our two anonymous donors for their ongoing support as every little bit goes a long way!!!

On top of the yearly shortfall of £32,000 that we are continuously looking at securing, we are currently looking at acquiring funding for refurbishment work on site at the BYCP. The building needs a brand new warm roof as it hasn't been replaced in over 26 years, the paving outside the building needs to be changed as it is loose and broken and lastly, we would like to change one of the storage rooms into a 'quiet room' for the young people where they can do writing, relax or just have a private chat with a staff member. If there are any contractors/organizations who may be able to help with this work or any grant schemes which may apply to us, please do let us know as any advice and support is always appreciated.

### **Recent Events**

In February, 23 young people and five staff members went to PGL-Liddington for a weekend of fun-filled activities including zip wire, archery, giant swing and aeroball. Young people were able to gain new skills and obtain an Entry Level Leadership Qualification and will now look to further develop and use their skills by volunteering within the community. The much-anticipated end of term Music Showcase took place in the end of March to a full house here at the BYCP. Our back room was transformed into a stage area with lights and black curtains, giving the young people a chance to show off their beautiful voices, writing skills and playing instruments. Work is already under way for the next music showcase set to take place in July. Lastly, our Senior Youth Worker Paul Barzey organized a community football match with young people from the Slough area and Thames Valley Police (TVP) earlier this month. The match took place at the Chicken Ranch in Britwell to help forge the relationship and breakdown barriers between the young people and the TVP. Even though the TVP won the match 7-5, everyone had a fantastic time. Job well done to all!



### Forthcoming Events in Spring/Summer 2017

- May half-term holiday club will run from 11am-3pm on Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> – Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Summer holiday club will run from 11am-3pm on Monday July 31<sup>st</sup> – Friday August 25<sup>th</sup>  
(Evening sessions will run as per normal unless otherwise stated: Tuesdays/Thursdays 6pm-845pm and Fridays 7pm-930pm)
- End of term music showcase in July (date yet to be confirmed)

We want to thank you, all of the parents/carers and residents of Britwell and everybody else who have been purchasing Co-op branded products and donating to us here at the BYCP. Let's try to surpass our recent award of £1711 to a record amount by September 2017!!!

We hope that you have enjoyed reading about our work and do feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone who you may think would like to read about us here at the BYCP or may be able to help us in the future.



A group of youth club members with PGL Swindon staff in February 2017.

**Britwell Youth & Community Project**  
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